



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

DEC 2 1975



MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT : Intelligence on Soviet Guided Missile Program

1. I feel that a serious problem exists relative to our intelligence effort on the Soviet guided missile program. Delay in taking remedial action could have such a critical impact on our national security that I feel this problem must be brought before the National Security Council in the relatively near future for discussion and decision. Guided missile intelligence is, in my opinion, national intelligence of the highest priority. I believe that a consolidation and sharpening of our efforts in this field are required and that a prerequisite to the successful accomplishment of this end lies in the establishment of a community-wide effort coordinated by a Guided Missile Intelligence Subcommittee of the Intelligence Advisory Committee with functions similar to those of the existing Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee.

2. In discussions with the Intelligence Advisory Committee over a period of ten months, I have been unable to reach accord among the members regarding the establishment of such a committee. Tab A is a summary of my efforts to handle this problem within the Intelligence Community.

3. The Army, Navy, and Joint Staff members indicated their opposition to such a committee as being an unnecessary duplication of the coordinating mechanism and the committee which already exists within the Joint Intelligence Committee structure of the JCS, in which all appropriate national agencies are invited to participate as observers. Further, it is their view that the President's directed high priority emphasis on US guided missiles development in the Department of Defense, requires that the intelligence effort on this weapon be directly responsive to Defense planning, development and research. They feel that the Scientific Estimates Committee of the Intelligence Advisory Committee, as presently constituted, can coordinate this subject adequately to meet other national requirements.

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They assert that the basic deficiencies are in the collection and acquisition of intelligence information on guided missiles and that the creation of an additional committee will not rectify them.

4. On the other hand the member representing the Air Force and the members representing the Department of State and the Atomic Energy Commission concur in the desirability of creating the proposed committee.

5. The fact of the matter is that to date we are not satisfying our essential requirements for intelligence in the guided missile field. Perhaps even after establishing the kind of a mechanism I am suggesting we shall still not be satisfying those requirements due to inherent collection difficulties. However, we should be more successful as a result of the greater degree of coordination which would result from the functioning of the committee.

6. I have in mind a committee with membership and functions essentially as shown on Tab B, attached. I am not asking you, nor would I ask the NSC, to pass upon the details of the proposed terms of reference. They can, I believe, be worked out satisfactorily in the IAC once a decision is reached that there shall be such a committee.

7. I believe that my statutory responsibility to coordinate national intelligence requires me to present this issue without further delay to the NSC for resolution. Inasmuch as there is a difference of view among the military representatives on the IAC, I am first referring the problem to you in accordance with paragraph 3a. of NSC Intelligence Directive No. 1. I shall be happy to discuss the matter with you at your convenience.

ALLAN A. PHILLIPS
Director

Enclosures
Tab A
Tab B

ODDI:RAJr.:jb
(23 Dec 55)

CONCUR: ROBERT AMORY, JR.
Deputy Director/Intelligence

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